

DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND INLAND FISHERIES

Regulation 4VAC15-350. Fish: Gigs, Grab Hooks, Trotlines, Snares, Etc.

4VAC15-350-20. Gigs, grab hooks, etc.; certain counties east of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

It shall be lawful to take nongame fish (daily creel (possession) and length limits for nongame fish are found in 4VAC15-320-25) at any time by snagging, grabbing, snaring, gigging, and with a striking iron in all waters of the following counties, except public impoundments, the Roanoke (Staunton) and Dan rivers, the James River in Goochland County and those waters stocked by the department: Amelia, Appomattox, Brunswick, Buckingham, Campbell, Charlotte, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Goochland, Greenville, Halifax, Louisa, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, Nottoway, Pittsylvania and Prince Edward.

4VAC15-350-30. Gigs, grab hooks, etc.; certain counties west of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Except as otherwise provided by local legislation, it shall be lawful to take nongame fish (daily creel (possession) and length limits for nongame fish are found in 4VAC15-320-25) in the daytime by snagging, grabbing, snaring, gigging, and with a striking iron from April 1 through May 15, both dates inclusive, and October 1 through November 30, both dates inclusive, in the following waters: Buchanan County, all waters except Dismal River; Grayson County, New River; Lee County, Powell River; Russell County, Clinch River; Scott County, Clinch River and its tributaries; Tazewell County, Dry Run Creek; Washington County, Middle and South Forks of the Holston River; Wise County, Clinch River. The bag limit for taking suckers or red horse provided for in this section shall be 20 per day.

4VAC15-350-60. Trotlines, juglines or set poles.

A. Generally. Except as otherwise provided by local legislation and by subsection B of this section, and except on waters stocked with trout and within 600 feet of any dam, it shall be lawful to use trotlines, juglines or set poles for the purpose of taking nongame fish (daily creel (possession) and length limits for nongame fish are found in 4VAC15-320-25) and turtles (limits for turtles are found in 4VAC15-360-10), provided that no live bait is used. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, live bait other than game fish may be used on trotlines to take catfish in the Clinch River in the Counties of Russell, Scott and Wise. Any person setting or in possession of a trotline, jugline or set pole shall have it clearly marked by permanent means with his name, address and telephone number, and is required to check all lines at least once each day and remove all fish and animals caught. This requirement shall not apply to landowners on private ponds, nor to a bona fide tenant or lessee on private ponds within the bounds of land rented or leased by him, nor to anyone transporting any such device from its place of purchase.

B. Quantico Marine Reservation. It shall be unlawful to fish with trotlines in any waters within the confines of Quantico Marine Reservation.

4VAC15-350-70. Taking common carp, northern snakehead, and gar with bow and arrow.

A. Season. Except as otherwise provided by local legislation or as posted, it shall be lawful to take common carp, northern snakehead, and gar from the public inland waters of the Commonwealth, except waters stocked with trout, by means of bow and arrow.

B. ~~Crossbows, poison~~ Poison arrows or explosive-head arrows prohibited. It shall be unlawful to use ~~a crossbow~~, poison arrows or arrows with explosive heads at any time for the purpose of taking common carp, northern snakehead, or gar in the public inland waters of the Commonwealth.

C. Fishing license required. All persons taking fish in the manner mentioned in this section shall be required to have a regular fishing license.

D. Creel limits. Common carp, northern snakehead, and gar – unlimited, provided that any angler taking northern snakehead immediately kill such fish and notify the department, as soon as practicable, of such actions.